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INFORMATION REPORT

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY

Hungary

SUBJECT

Homokbanya Army Installation (4653N/1939E)

USAF review completed.

REPORT

DATE DISTRIBUTED

11 Jul 1957

25X1

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3(1)

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT #

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2. sketch of the installation /see Enclosure (c)/

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POINT DESCRIPTION

- 1-2 Open rifle range - 22 cal, 100x30 meters. No personnel assigned.
- 3 Technical material warehouse. One story, 10 meters square. Spare parts for tanks and motor cars. One person assigned.
- 4-5 Clothing warehouse. One story, 10 meters square. New uniforms. Three persons assigned.
- 6-8 Artillery storage sheds. Constructed of reinforced concrete pillars and flat concrete roof. One armed guard. Six to seven 76 mm anti-aircraft guns in Pt 6, 152mm-M-1938 in Pt 7-9.

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- 10 Transformer booth. Two story, 3x3 meters. First floor contained control panels while transformers were in a locked room on the second floor. Only the officials from Kecskemet were allowed into this room. The power was received from Banyhida. [redacted] 25X1
- 11 Motor car repair shop. One story, 15x8x6 meters. Twelve persons.
- 12 Division general repair shop. One story, 25x10x6 meters. Minor tank repair shop.
- 13 Technical material warehouse. One story, 8-10 sq meters. Motor car spare parts. One person assigned.
- 14-15 High pressure car washing. One story, 2x3 meters. Used for washing tanks. Only cold water was used and two six-stage pumps coupled to electric motors were utilized to build the water pressure up to 8-10 atmospheres.
- 16 Locksmith workshop and garage. One story, 15x8x6 meters. Twelve persons.
- 17 Control room. One story, 15x8x6 meters. Passes issued here and motor cars checked. Three persons assigned.
- 18 Gasoline filling station and storage. One story, 8x8x2½ meters. Gasoline was delivered in 200-liter drums and pumped into the vehicles by small hand pumps. Usually 10-15 drums of fuel stored here. Three persons.
- 19 Room of officer in charge. One story, 8x8x2½ meters. Passes issued here and a waiting room for visitors. Three persons assigned.
- 20 Covered rifle range and carpenters' workshop. One story, 40x8x3 meters. Tile roof. One person assigned.
- 21 Command building/administration. One story, 30x8 meters. This building was assigned to the antiaircraft artillery unit. Building consisted of twenty-four rooms, with three persons per room. Some AVO officers were assigned here.
- 22 Command building/administration. One story, 30x8 meters. This building was assigned [redacted] Light Artillery Unit and same as Point 21. 25X1
- 23 Hospital. One story with basement, 30x8 meters, twenty-four bed capacity. Basement contained the boiler room, baths and a disinfection chamber for clothing. Two doctors and three male nurses assigned.
- a. A print shop occupied three rooms in the basement of this building. [redacted] printing presses and type-setting machines were just being installed. The press had been located elsewhere in the barracks [redacted] prior to this move. [redacted] the press turned out propaganda books and forms (eg, identification cards, administration forms for the installation). There was no marker designating the rooms as a printing plant; the area was not restricted but on the other hand, very few people knew about the activity. It was presided over by an AVO major with a staff of two sergeants, three privates and a female civilian typist. A headquarters pass (which was special) was required to gain access to these rooms. [redacted] 25X1

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- 24 Technical workshop division. One story, 8x8 meters. Was used for the manufacturing of camp stoves and for general repairs. Six to eight persons.
- 25-28 Billets. Three story with basement, 60x10x20 meters. Capacity 200-300 men.
- 29 Mess hall. One story, 10-12 meters high, "T" shaped, 100x30x30x70x40x70x30x30 meters. This was also used for a recreational center.
- 30 Food warehouse. One story, 15x8 meters. Used as storage place for both barrack areas. Six persons assigned.
- 31-32 Potato vault. Sunken $\frac{1}{2}$ meter, 30x8x $\frac{1}{2}$ meters, covered with a rattan-type roof angled to four meters at center with a brick wall.
- 33 Water tank. 4-4 $\frac{1}{2}$ meters high, 5 meter diameter, 400 cubic meter capacity, round in shape, constructed of reinforced concrete with internal supports.
- 34 Machine shop (pump house). One story, heavy brick building. 7x7x3-3 $\frac{1}{2}$ meters. 25X1
 There were three pumps of which two had a capacity of 700-800 liters per minute and the third, smaller one had a capacity of about 400 liters per minute. The pumps were operated by two 25-hp and one 15-hp electric motors. There were also tanks of compressed air used for water pressure. The water which was piped from the Kecskemet reservoir was chlorinated, not fluorinated.
- 35 Motor vehicle repair shop and garage. One story, 15x8x6 meters. Six to seven persons.
- 36 Ammunition storage. One story, 4x4 meters. The building had small windows covered by heavy wire screen, and an armed guard. 25X1
- 37 Stalls-horses. One story, 4x8x3 meters. Brick walls, tile roof. Four horses, two persons.
- 38 Gas chamber. One story, 4x6x2 $\frac{1}{2}$ meters. Used for gas mask training.
- 39 Pig sty. Fenced - 50x3-1 $\frac{1}{2}$ meters.
- 40 Ammunition and primer storage. Two small buildings 3x3x2 $\frac{1}{2}$ meters, protected by dirt revetments four meters high. One armed guard.
- 41 Officers' billets. One story, 40x6 meters. Brick walls-corrugated asbestos roof. Capacity unknown.
- 42 Boiler room. One story, 10x8x8 $\frac{1}{2}$ meters, sunken 1 meter. Furnished heat for the buildings. One civilian.
- 43 Officers' billets. Three story, 30x10 meters. Capacity unknown.
- 44 Division building. One story, 30x40 meters. Special pass was required for admittance.
- 45 Guard house and gate. One story, 8x8x2 $\frac{1}{2}$ meters. Two persons.
- 46-51 Married officers' quarters. One story, 40x6 meters. Brick walls, corrugated asbestos roof. Four families per building.

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- Small rifle range. 50x20 meters. Slightly sunken.
- Furniture stockroom. One story, 50x8x3 meters.
- Coal storage. Covered, 40x8x3 meters. Capacity estimated at thirty car loads.
- Clothing storage. Two story, 25x10 meters. New uniforms.
- Sentry building and guard house. One story, 8x12 meters. Sixteen persons, with eight on duty and eight on stand-by. Two hour shifts of guard duty.
- Potato vaults. Same as described in Point 31.
- Mess hall. Same as described in Point 29.
- Billets. Same as described in Point 41.
- Hospital. Same as described in Point 23, less print shop.
- Command building. Same as described in Point 21. This building was assigned Light Artillery Unit. 25X1
- Flag keeping room. This was a small "U" shaped building, used for display of flag.
- Room of officer in charge. Same as described in Point 19. 25X1
- Motor car repair shop. Same as described in Point 11.
- Artillery storage sheds. This was the same as described in Point 6, 9.
- Gasoline filling station and storage. Same as described in Point 10.
- Motor vehicle control station. One story, 8x8x2½ meters. All vehicles were checked here prior to dispatch.
- Artillery repair shop. One story, 12x2 meters. Five persons.
- Gasoline filling station and storage. Same as described in Point 10.
- Billets. Same as described in Point 41.
- Settling tanks. Round in shape, 5 meters deep, 4 meter diameter constructed of concrete. Used to receive the "rough" sewage.
- Settling tanks. Same construction as described in Point 77. Used for secondary stage.
- General rifle range. Used for standard issue rifles. Dimensions unknown.
- Pump house. One story, 4½x3x1½-2 meters, partly sunken. 4½ hp motors were used to operate the four centrifugal pumps which pumped the water into a canal.
- Water filters. 4 meters high, 5 meters in diameter.
- Filter and water collection point. A dirt basin, dimensions unknown.
- The entire camp was surrounded by a barbed wire fence mounted on cement posts. Armed guards were stationed at the gates. All the buildings were surrounded by a ditch.

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of bricks with flat, reinforced concrete roofs with the exception of a few as described above.

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4. Units stationed at Homokbanya were as follows (their official designation was according to a PO Box address):

- a. [redacted] Army Corps Division Headquarters (the main headquarters was in Kecskemet): 300 military.
- b. [redacted] Light Artillery: 900 military, 15 civilians.
- c. [redacted] Light Artillery: 1,000 military and 15 civilians.
- d. [redacted] Antiaircraft Artillery: 200 military.
- e. [redacted] Signal Corps: 900 military.

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Each unit had at least two AVO officers assigned.

5. About two weeks prior to the revolt (in October 1956) the unit [redacted] was in the process of disbanding. The disbandment caused some surprise because they had had the best record in target practice. We heard that the disbandment of this unit (and subsequently of all the Hungarian units at Homokbanya except for the Signal Corps [e above], had been advised by the Soviets; in line with a reduction in the Soviet Army, the Hungarian armed forces were to be reduced by some 15,000. Several officers (throughout Hungary) were retired, others had to appear before a board for reassignment. Homokbanya units were disbanded, except for Signal Corps which was moving in about that time. It was rumored that approximately 3,000 Soviet recruits were to be brought in for infantry training:

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[redacted] there was present a small Russian guard unit, consisting of one officer and six enlisted men, arranging for billeting; they were trying to arrange for housing for some 3,000 men. There was not nearly enough room for this number at Homokbanya, but since it was the only free space in the area, the Russian sentry band had probably been instructed to do the best they could with what was available. [redacted] both Hungarian and Russian troops are now stationed at Homokbanya.

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6. [redacted] It was necessary to produce [redacted] pass in order to obtain a permit to get into restricted areas within the installation.

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- ENCLOSURE (A): [redacted] Kecskemet
Airfield, of location of Homokbanya Army Camp.
- ENCLOSURE (B): [redacted] Kecskemet, of location of Homokbanya Army Camp.
- ENCLOSURE (C): Reproduction (reduced in size) of [redacted] sketch, of the Homokbanya installation, with 87 points marked.

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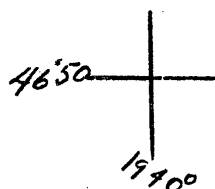
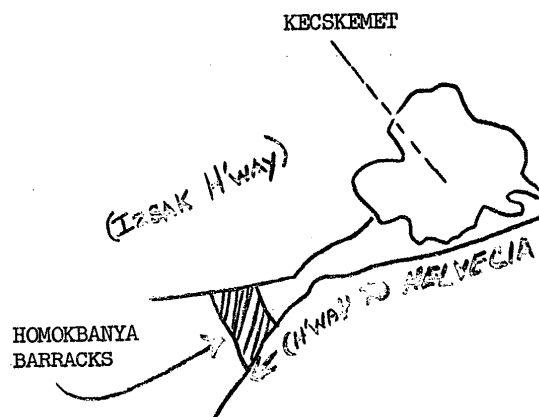
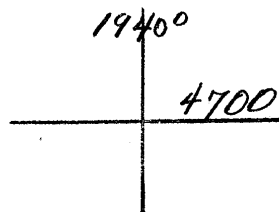
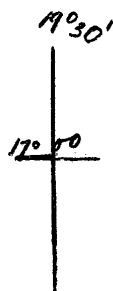
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ENCLOSURE (A):

Kecskemet Airfield, of location of Homokbanya Army Camp.

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OR 51-8060-100
KECSKEMET AFD

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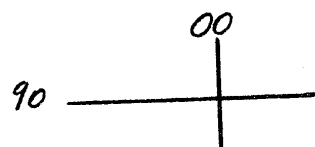
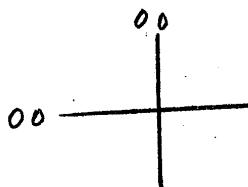
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ENCLOSURE (B):

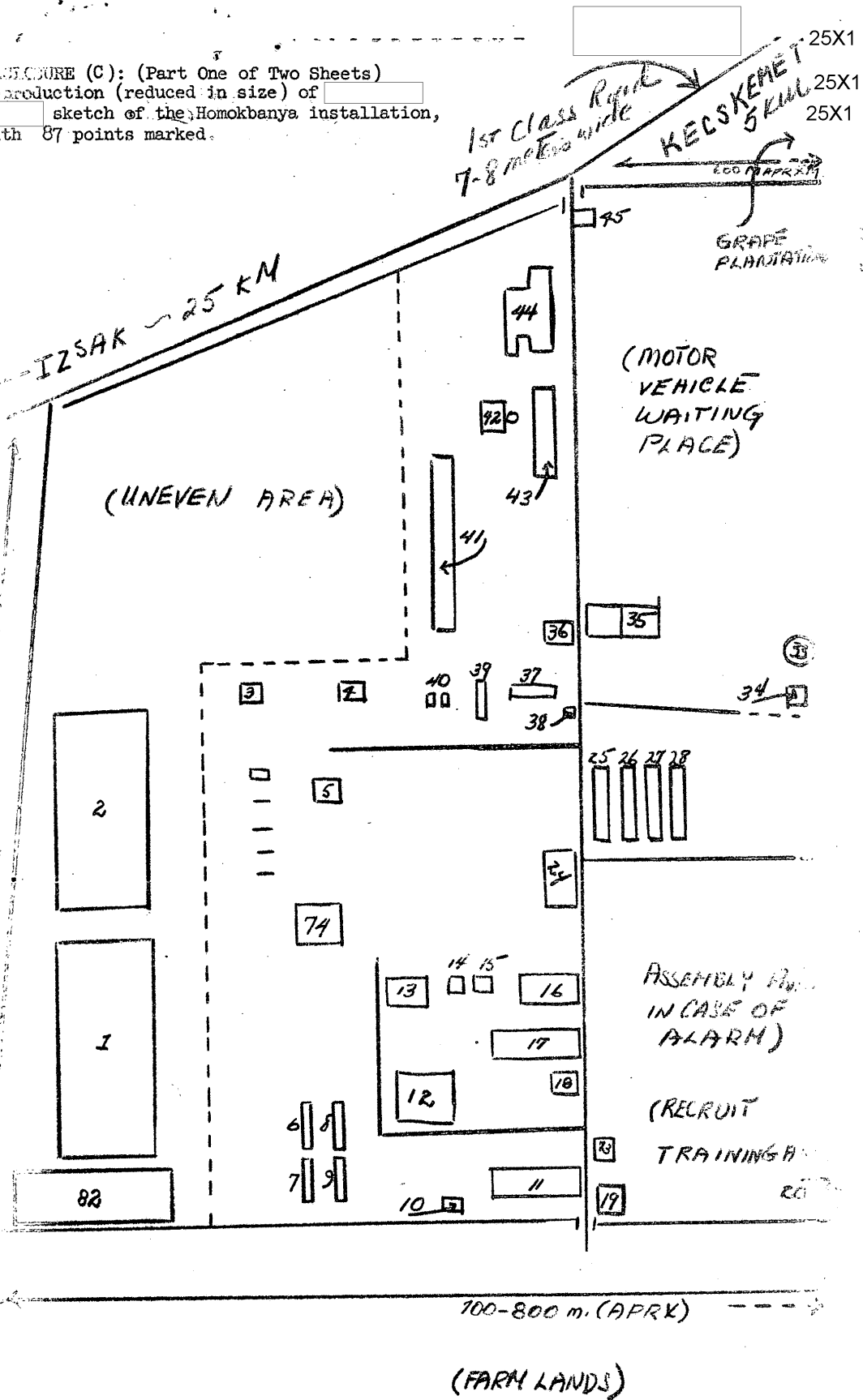
Kecskemet, of location of Homokbanya Army Camp.

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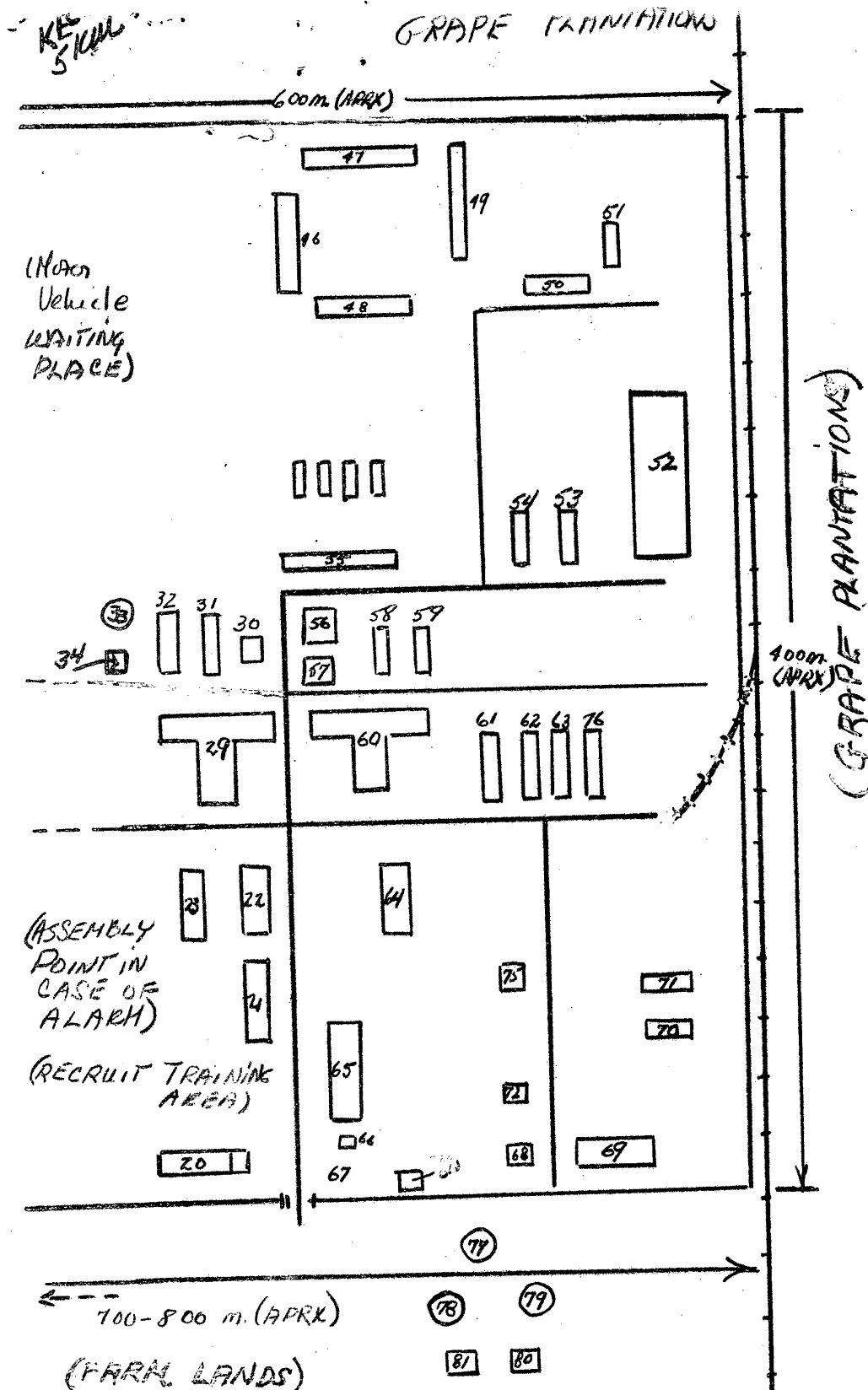


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ENCLOSURE (C): (Part One of Two Sheets)
 reproduction (reduced in size) of [redacted]
 sketch of the Homokbanya installation,
 with 87 points marked.



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ENCLOSURE (C): (Part Two of Two Sheets)

Reproduction (reduced in size) of

sketch of the Homobong installation, with 87 points marked.

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|---|---------------------------------|
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 69, Gépkezi javító műhely, garázs
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 71, — " —
 72, Gépkezi ellenőrző állomás
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- 83, Szivattyú ház
 84, Szűrőház
 85, — " —
 86, — " —
 87, Beton akna (víz)

KEY

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